

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/032,676

Examiner

Alex P. Rada

Applicant(s)

JACOBS ET AL.

Art Unit

3714

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to March 28, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 October 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

In Response to the amendment filed March 28, 2005 in which the applicant amends claims 1, 7, 12 and claims 1-16 are pending in this application.

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ramon L. Pizarro, Reg. No. 37,207 on June 7, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please add to claim 1, line 7 between the words "player" and "selected" the word --to--

Please delete/add to claim 1, line 7 between the words "to" and "number" the word "selected" and add the word between the words "to" and "number" the word -select--

Please add to claim 1, line 7 between the words "select" and "number" the word --a--

Please add to claim 1, line 19 between the words "a" and "pair" word -separate--

Please add to claim 1, line 19 between the words "dealers" and the comma the words --hand positions--

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Please add to claim 1, line 20 between the words "dealers" and "receiving" the words --hand positions--

Please delete to claim 1, line 21 the word "at" between the words "to" and "each"

Please add to claim 7, line 21 between the words "a" and "pair" the word --separate--

Please add to claim 7, line 23 between the words "a" and "pair" the word --separate--

Please add to claim 7, line 24 between the word "dealers" and the comma the words --hand positions--

Please add to claim 7, line 24 between the words "dealers" and "receiving" the words --hand positions--

Please add to claim 7, line 25 between the words "dealing" and "cards" the words -a separate pair of--

Please add to claim 12, line 8 between the words "of" and "dealer" the word - independent--

Please add to claim 12, line 9 between the words "of" and "dealer" the word - independent--

Please add to claim 12, line 17 between the words "the" and "hand" the word - player--

Please add to claim 12, line 18 an --s-- to the word position

Please add to claim 12, line 19 between the words "a" and "pair" the word - separate--

Please add to claim 12, line 19 between the word "dealers" and the comma the words --hand positions--

Please add to claim 12, line 20 between the words "dealers" and "receiving" the words --hand positions--

The changes made above were authorized by the Applicant's representative to make minor clarifications to the claims to place the case in condition for allowance.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art does not disclose nor teach according to claims 1, 7, and 12, providing a player to select at least two independent dealer hand positions, providing at least two player hand positions, dealing a separate pair of cards for each player hand position to create a player hand at each player hand position, and dealing a separated pair of cards for each of the dealers hand positions in combination with the rest of the claimed limitations. The closest prior art LeVasseur and Moody only disclose a blackjack card game having multiple dealer hand positions using the same up card for each hand position and a multiple player hand positions using the same two cards for every wager placed and not dealing a separate pair of cards for each player hand position to create a player hand at each player hand position, and dealing a separated pair of cards for each of the dealers hand positions in combination with the rest of the claimed limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

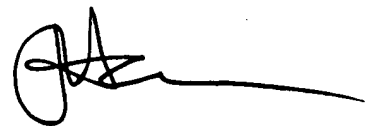
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alex P. Rada whose telephone number is 571-272-4452. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 08:00-16:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's acting supervisor, Jessica Harrison can be reached on 571-272-4449. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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JESSICA HARRISON
PRIMARY EXAMINER